

## Message Text

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51

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CG-00 DOTE-00 L-03 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02

SS-15 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 EB-07

SAJ-01 ACDA-05 /062 W

----- 073997

R 270848Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 955

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 1506

LONDON FOR US COAST GUARD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETEL MARR DA FO

SUBJ: STATUS OF CLARINET PILGRIM PROGRAM

REF A) OSLO 1858 B) OSLO 2003 (C) COPENHAGEN 1335

SUMMARY: FOLLOWING DISCUSSIONS MAY 13-15 WITH  
K. O. GREDAL, DIRECTOR OF DANISH ADMINISTRATION FOR  
NAVIGATION AND HYDROGRAPHY, COAST GUARD OFFICIAL DAVID  
HAISLIP TOLD EMBOFF THAT GREDAL IS STILL WELL-DISPOSED  
TO THE TECHNICAL AND OPERATIONAL ASPECTS OF THE  
CLARINET PILGRIM PROGRAM. ON THE POLITICAL SIDE,  
HOWEVER, HE BELIEVES THAT THE PROGRAM WILL  
EVENTUALLY HAVE TO BE HANDLED OPENLY AND PUBLICLY  
AND THAT A FAVORABLE NORWEGIAN DECISION WILL BE ALMOST  
A PRECONDITION FOR DANISH ACCEPTANCE OF THE PROGRAM.  
UNLESS THE DEPARTMENT PERCEIVES OBJECTION, THE EMBASSY  
WILL NOW INFORMALLY AND CONFIDENTIALLY BRIEF THE MFA  
AND OFFICE OF FAEROESE AFFAIRS ON THE CURRENT STATUS OF  
THE CLARINET PILGRIM PROGRAM, MAKING CLEAR THAT ITS  
APPROACH DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AT THIS POINT A FORMAL  
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REQUEST. END SUMMARY.

1) HAISLIP TOLD EMBOFF THAT HE FOUND GREDAL UP-TO-DATE ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS: (A) THE HELLEBUST AFFAIR IN NORWAY (REFTEL A); (B) U.S. DEFERRAL OF ANY APPROACH TO THE DANES UNTIL AFTER THE FAEROESE ELECTIONS; AND (C) THE POSSIBILITY OF JAN MAYEN AS AN ALTERNATE SITE FOR EIDA. GREDAL WAS STILL FAVORABLY DISPOSED TO THE PROGRAM AND WAS ESPECIALLY TAKEN WITH THE INTER-STATION COMMUNICATION ASPECT. HE TOLD HAISLIP THE ELECTION RESULTS IN THE FAEROES HAD DIMINISHED THE POLITICAL CONCERN FELT BY THE DANISH GOVERNMENT AND HE RECOMMENDED THAT THE PROJECT BE RAISED FORMALLY WITH THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

2) BECAUSE OF THE HELLEBUST AFFAIR AND THE NEAR CERTAINTY THAT THE NATURE OF THE CLARINET PILGRIM PROGRAM WILL BECOME PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE, GREDAL FELT THE PROGRAM WILL EVENTUALLY HAVE TO BE HANDLED OPENLY AND PUBLICLY. MOREOVER, HE TOLD HAISLIP, IF THE NORWEGIANS DECIDE ON THE BASIS OF THE HELLEBUST COMMISSION FINDINGS THAT THEY ARE UNABLE TO PARTICIPATE, THE DANISH GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE "GREAT PROBLEMS".

3) IN VIEW OF GREDAL'S EXTENSIVE AWARENESS OF THE CLARINET PILGRIM PROGRAM AND HIS SOUNDINGS WITHIN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE, THE EMBASSY BELIEVES IT IS IMPERATIVE TO RAISE THIS ISSUE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WITH THE MF AND THE OFFICE OF FAEROESE AFFAIRS AS SUGGESTED REFTEL C. WE CONCUR IN GREDAL'S ESTIMATION THAT THE MATTER WILL EVENTUALLY HAVE TO BE HANDLED OPENLY ON THE BASIS OF THE MUTUAL INTERESTS OF THE ALLIANCE. WE ALSO CONCUR IN HIS VIEW THAT THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT'S DECISION WILL PLAY A MAJOR PART IN THE DANISH RESPONSE AND THAT THE DANES WOULD IN ANY CASE DELAY THEIR RESPONSE UNTIL THE NORWEGIAN DECISION WAS MADE. WITH BOTH NORWAY AND DENMARK IN FAVOR, THE PROGRAM COULD BE PRESENTED MUCH MORE EASILY TO THE FAEROESE PRIME MINISTER.

4) SINCE THE GON DECISION MAY BE SEVERAL MONTHS AWAY, WE SEE NO NEED TO TENDER THE DANISH GOVERNMENT A REQUEST  
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THAT WOULD AT THIS STAGE BE, IN EFFECT, A CONDITIONAL ONE. CONSEQUENTLY, UNLESS THE DEPARTMENT PERCEIVES OBJECTION, THE EMBASSY INTENDS TO BRIEF INFORMALLY RUTH PETERSEN OF THE OFFICE OF FAEROESE AFFAIRS AND TORBEN FROST OF THE MFA'S NATO OFFICE ON THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE PROGRAM AND TO SOLICIT THEIR INFORMAL REACTIONS. THE EMBASSY WILL MAKE IT CLEAR THAT THE APPROACH AT THIS TIME IS NOT AN OFFICIAL REQUEST.

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## Message Attributes

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